



# California Department of Veterans Affairs

## VETERANS NEWS

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### GOVERNOR ISSUES STATEMENTS ON DEATHS OF MILITARY PERSONNEL



3/13/2008

**Gov. Schwarzenegger Issues Statement on Death of Bell Gardens Soldier: Cpl. Jose A. Paniagua-Morales**

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today released the following statement regarding the death of Cpl. Jose A. Paniagua-Morales of Bell Gardens, CA:

"Corporal Jose Paniagua-Morales was a true patriot who gave his life in the defense of liberty. He fought with honor, bravery and loyalty to our country and his fellow soldiers. On behalf of the people of California, Maria and I offer our prayers and deepest condolences to Jose's loved ones as they mourn the loss of an extraordinary Californian."

Paniagua-Morales, 22, died March 7 as a result of wounds suffered when his vehicle encountered an improvised explosive in Samarra, Iraq. Paniagua-Morales was assigned to the 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 4th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, United States Army, Fort Lewis, WA.

In honor of Cpl. Paniagua-Morales, Capitol flags will be flown at half-staff.



3/12/2008

**Gov. Schwarzenegger Issues Statement on Death of Hornbrook Soldier: Sgt. Gabriel Guzman**

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today released the following statement regarding the death of Sgt. Gabriel Guzman, of Hornbrook, CA:

"Maria and I join all Californians in honoring Sergeant Gabriel Guzman for his courage, selflessness and unrelenting devotion to this country. His loss is a tribute to the extraordinary patriotism and commitment

displayed by our men and women in uniform who have made the ultimate sacrifice to keep us safe. We send our deepest sympathies to Gabriel's family, friends and fellow soldiers during this time of mourning."

Guzman, 25, died March 8 as a result of wounds suffered when his vehicle encountered an improvised explosive device in Gholam Haydar Kala, Afghanistan. Guzman was assigned to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 508<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment, 4<sup>th</sup> Brigade Combat Team, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, United States Army, Fort Bragg, NC.

In honor of Sgt. Guzman, Capitol flags will be flown at half-staff.



3/6/2008

### **Gov. Schwarzenegger Issues Statement on Death of Sonora Soldier: Sgt. Robert T. Rapp**

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today released the following statement regarding the death of Sgt. Robert T. Rapp, of Sonora, CA:

"The people of California are forever indebted to Sergeant Robert Rapp for his extraordinary leadership, valor and dedication to this country. His sacrifice reminds us of the selflessness exhibited every day by the courageous men and women of our armed forces. Maria and I join all Californians in extending our deepest sympathies to Robert's family and friends as they mourn the loss of an American hero."

Rapp, 22, died March 3 as a result of wounds suffered during combat operations in the Sabari District of Afghanistan. Rapp was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, United States Army, Fort Bragg, NC.

In honor of Sgt. Rapp, Capitol flags will be flown at half-staff.



2/26/2008

### **Gov. Schwarzenegger Issues Statement on Death of Twentynine Palms Marine: Lance Cpl. Drew W. Weaver**

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today released the following statement regarding the death of Lance Cpl. Drew W. Weaver of St. Charles, MO:

"Maria and I were deeply saddened to learn of the loss of Lance Corporal Drew Weaver, who gave his life in the defense of freedom. He fought with courage, honor and steadfast loyalty to this country and his fellow Marines. We join all Californians in paying tribute to Drew's sacrifice and offering our sincere condolences to his family and friends during this time of mourning."

Weaver, 20, died Feb. 21 while conducting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. Weaver was assigned to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, United States Marine Corps, Twentynine Palms, CA.

In honor of Lance Cpl. Weaver, Capitol flags will be flown at half-staff.



2/13/2008

### Gov. Schwarzenegger Issues Statement on Death of Pixley Soldier

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today released the following statement regarding the death of Sgt. Timothy P. Martin of Pixley, CA:

"Sergeant Timothy Martin's extraordinary courage and selflessness remind all Californians of the heroic sacrifices made to keep us safe. Maria and I extend our deepest sympathies to his family, fellow soldiers and friends during this time of mourning. Timothy's patriotism and service to this country will be honored forever by the people of California."

Martin, 27, died Feb. 8 as a result wounds suffered when his vehicle encountered an improvised explosive device in Taji, Iraq. Martin was assigned to the 2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, United States Army, Schofield Barracks, HI.

In honor of Sgt. Martin, Capitol flags will be flown at half-staff.



2/13/2008

### Gov. Schwarzenegger Issues Statement on Death of Alameda Soldier

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today released the following statement regarding the death of Spc. Michael T. Manibog of Alameda, CA:

"Maria and I join all Californians in mourning the loss of Specialist Michael Manibog. His bravery and unwavering loyalty to this country are a testament to the ideals embodied by every member of our nation's armed forces. We hold Michael's family and loved ones in our thoughts and prayers as they mourn this tragic loss."

Manibog, 31, died Feb. 8 as a result of wounds suffered when his vehicle encountered an improvised explosive device in Taji, Iraq. Manibog was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, United States Army, Schofield Barracks, HI.

In honor of Spc. Manibog, Capitol flags will be flown at half-staff.

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